

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace two paragraphs beginning at page 5, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

It has already been confirmed that offset can be rendered inconspicuous if the surface resistivity of the pressure roller is made as lower as ranging from  $1 \times 10^{10}$  through  $1 \times 10^{12}$   $\Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$ , and the ratio of micro-fine toner is low compared to conventional toner. However, it was confirmed with experiments that, offset did occur in case of the finer toner, despite the surface resistivity of the pressure roller having being lowered to around  $1 \times 10^{10}$  through  $1 \times 10^{12}$   $\Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$ .

On the other hand, in order to prevent this offset, a technique of rendering the pressure roller surface electroconductive (which in terms of surface resistivity being around  $1 \times 10^2$  through  $1 \times 10^4$   $\Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$ ) has often been attempted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The fixing apparatus and the image-forming device according to the present invention comprises a transfer unit that obtains a visible image from an electrostatic latent image formed on a latent image bearing body using a developer and transfers the visible image onto a medium, and a fixing roller and a pressure roller, positioned opposite to each other with a transfer pass for the medium therebetween, that fix the visible image on the medium. The developer contains a toner having a volume mean grain size of from 5 to 10 micrometers and a grain size not larger than 5 micrometers accounting for 60 through 80 number percent. The surface resistivity of the pressure roller is between  $1 \times 10^7$  through  $1 \times 10^{10}$   $\Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$ .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Of the surface region of the pressure roller 8B, the coated later 8B3 contains an electroconductive agent of spherical carbon, the percentage composition of the electroconductive agent being controlled at a quantitative level where the following values can be obtained as the surface resistivity of the pressure roller 8B. Namely, the percentage composition of the electroconductive agent is conditional on the surface resistivity of the pressure roller being less than  $1 \times 10^{10} \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$  at a measuring voltage of 500V and not less than  $1 \times 10^7 \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$  at 10V.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In those measurements, given such a high measuring voltage as 500V, measurements can be made of a sample without problems at a surface resistivity of  $1 \times 10^9$  through  $1 \times 10^{11} \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$  or thereabouts, but at  $1 \times 10^5$  through  $1 \times 10^7 \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$  or thereabouts, it is difficult to obtain correct values of the sample. On the other hand, given a measuring voltage of 10V, measurements can be made without problems if and when the surface resistivity is  $1 \times 10^5$  through  $1 \times 10^8 \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$  or thereabouts, but it gets difficult to obtain correct values of the sample. Because of this, in order to obtain correct values of the sample at surface resistivity of  $1 \times 10^7$  through  $1 \times 10^{10} \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$  or thereabouts, measurements are taken in both ways.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The toners used in the experiment come in three types, namely finer non-uniform toner of this invention (a toner having a volume mean grain size of from 5 to 10 micrometers and a grain size not larger than 5 micrometers accounting for 60 through 80 number percent), a finer uniform toner (a toner having a volume mean grain size of 5 through 10 micrometers and that contains a micro-fine toner accounting for 20 through 40 number percent because of execution of an elimination process, and a coarse toner (with a volume mean grain size of not less than 20 micrometers), with the results of experimental off-setting evaluated in four grades of excellent, good, ordinary, and bad. The surface resistivity of the pressure roll is measured in units of 10 powers up to and including  $10^5$  through  $10^{11}$   ~~$\Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$~~  (the experiment being made with reference to  $10^{13}$   ~~$\Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$~~  also).

Please replace three paragraphs beginning at page 16, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the case of the finer uniform toner, restraining effects on offset are obtained at a surface resistivity of  $10^{11}$   ~~$\Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$~~ . However, as the pressure roller surface approaches quite close to electroconductivity, offset becomes evident as soon as the toner-bearing medium enters the fixing apparatus.

In the case of the finer non-uniform toner, as earlier addressed as a task, it seems that as soon as the medium with toner-developed visible image on it enters the fixing apparatus, electric charge initiates an abrupt discharge between the toner-developed visible image and the pressure roller disposed on the back side of the medium, with the resultant shock transmitted to the toner on the image plane to liberate the toner towards the fixing roller in a phenomenon called offset. In the case of the finer uniform toner where micro-fine toner has been eliminated, however, the toner remains practical in service at a surface resistivity of  $10^5$

through  $10^6 \text{ } \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$ .

In case of the finer non-uniform toner of this invention, the effect of preventing offset is observable only within an extremely narrow range of  $10^7$  through  $10^{10} \text{ } \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$ , and at  $10^5$  through  $10^6 \text{ } \Omega/\text{m}\Omega/\text{square}$  particularly, a large amount of offset is confirmed no sooner has the medium entered the fixing apparatus.